

Blended Learning Stories

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Prologue

Blended Learning (BL) is gaining increasing interest and popularity in Higher Education. JISC defines Blended Learning as "a combination of face-to-face learning and dynamic digital activities and content that facilitate anytime/anyplace learning". Addressing challenges such as attendance, performance outcomes, satisfaction and student engagement, the pilot allowed us to train and support staff to re-develop their existing modules. Paul Holland and Rhian Kerton shared their case study of using e-lectures in Engineering through a Blackboard CPD module, and from this, the Blended Learning pilot was born.

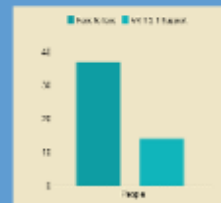
As a cross university strategic project, the project aims to develop a framework and approach to the implementation of Blended Learning (BL). The pilot aims to support the conversion of up to 70 modules to a BL approach (approximately 5 modules per semester across each of the 7 colleges), and at least 1 Virtual Reality (VR) or Augmented Reality (AR) app per college.

The BL pilot launched in summer 2017, with colleagues across colleges attending training and re-developing their modules. A large proportion of these modules have already been successfully delivered to students. The approaches and extent of blending has varied throughout modules and included, the use of enhanced PowerPoints, e-portfolios, e-textbooks, podcasts, quizzes, videos and VR. Individual's BL stories can be accessed below.

Chapter One

Volunteers

training provided



73 volunteers

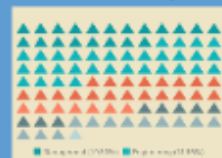


Modules

current modules



modules for development



20 participants have converted multiple modules

14 currently being delivered AY 17/18

28 completed and implemented AY 17/18

42 total modules converted AY 17/18

52 in development for AY 18/19



scan the codes in each box to see the video content



Chapter Two



Chapter Three

Volunteers

We are enhancing training and support provision to accommodate more volunteers, 23 staff have been added to the pilot from CHHS*, with an extra 7 for training only.

Modules

We have identified 25 potential new modules to add to the pilot.

Training and Support

Surveying Phase 1 pilot volunteers reflected a need for enhanced pedagogy and guidance on how to blend in addition to the technology and tools. We have revised the training to include the ABC approach to Curriculum Design, applied to a blended learning context.

We offer face-to-face training sessions, college bespoke sessions, drop-in sessions and 1-2-1 support to enable staff to access the training and support they need to convert their existing modules. The Blackboard Blended Learning Pilot module is being updated.

Facilities and Equipment

There is now a dedicated soundproof quiet recording space in Keir Hardie on Singleton Campus. We have rolled out a Camtasia site license for video and audio editing.



Wacom and Blue Snowball microphones have been distributed to colleges for use, and several colleges are launching dedicated VR/AR/mixed reality spaces, including COAH**, CHHS and the Hilary Rodham Clinton School of Law.

* College of Health and Human Sciences
** College of Arts and Humanities

Chapter Four YOUR BLENDED LEARNING JOURNEY

With equipment, facilities, resources, technology and tools, the support and training is available to create your own blended learning story. If you are interested in Phase 2, contact the project team.



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Further Information:

JISC <http://www.jisc.ac.uk>
TEL Collaborate page <http://www.tel.ac.uk/collaborate/>
Blended Learning Blackboard <http://www.blackboard.com/academic/learning/learning-design/learning-design.html>
ABC of Learning Design <http://www.blackboard.com/academic/learning/learning-design/learning-design.html>